



*Zhu*  
*AF*

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of

MICHAEL J. KIRKWOOD, et al.

Serial No. 09/823,819

Filed: March 30, 2001

For: BUSINESS VOCABULARY DATA  
STORAGE USING MULTIPLE INTER-  
RELATED HIERARCHIES

) Confirmation Number: 6610

) Group Art Unit: 2161

) Examiner: Goddard, Brian D.

Corres. and Mail  
**BOX AF**

Mail Stop AF  
Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**EXPEDITED AFTER FINAL PROCEDURE**

**REPLY TO OFFICE ACTION**

Sir:

In reply to the Office Action mailed November 30, 2004, which has been made final, the shortened statutory period for which runs until February 28, 2005, please reconsider the subject application after amendment as indicated herein. This reply is filed prior to two (2) months after the mailing date of the final Office Action; therefore, the expedited after final procedure applies.

Please amend Claims as indicated below.

**Amendments to the claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks begin on page 17** of this paper.

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: Mail Stop AF, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

On: January 14, 2005

By

*Teresa Austin*  
Teresa Austin